

Art Unit: 2631

CLPTO

091604

D.S.

1. A method of allocating bandwidth for multicast traffic in a switching device connected between a plurality of ingress means and a plurality of egress means, the method comprising the steps of:-

- a) determining ingress multicast queue occupancy for each ingress means;
- b) determining the number of multicast cells received by the egress means from the ingress means in the last bandwidth allocation period;
- c) determining the bandwidth at each ingress means and egress means; and
- d) calculating the bandwidth allocation for the next bandwidth allocation period in accordance with the values determined in steps a), b) and c).

CLAIM 2 (CANCELLED)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY